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5980 Hurt Road, Horn Lake, MS 38637
Tel: 662-393-3610; Fax: 662-342-3205

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SEP 28 2011
MANAGEMENT
STB

Cynthia T. Brown
Chief of the Section of Administration, Office of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20423-0001

RECEIVED
SEP 28 2011
Office of
Public Records

RE: Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment of railroad line between Milepost 622.5 and Milepost 703.8. – In Mississippi – STB Docket AB-1087AX

Dear Mrs. Brown:

I am writing in opposition to the application filed by Grenada Railway LLC ("GRYR") for abandonment of the railroad line between milepost 622.5 near Grenada, Mississippi and Milepost 703.8 near Canton, Mississippi, a distance of 81.3 miles in Grenada, Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo and Madison Counties, MS.

As a native Mississippian, I genuinely want to see some diversified industries move into my state. I am greatly concerned that if the Surface Transportation Board allows this abandonment to be consummated – it would negatively impact the regional economy and prevent rail dependent industries from even considering a move to this area. While my company is located in Desoto County, we are serviced by the GRYR and dependent upon vibrant rail service in order to remain competitive. If the 9 companies currently serviced by the GRYR in the "proposed to be abandoned region" were to lose service, then the rate fees that we are currently being charged by the GRYR would most likely have to be increased. Additionally, I am concerned that the GRYR would eventually request to abandon the tracks servicing us on the grounds that they now do not have "sufficient business" to support their on-going activities. My plant has 300 employees and we are in fierce competition from other plants in neighboring states -which have a competitive advantage by having viable rail service.

It should be noted that the fees we are being charged by the GRYR are 3 to 4 times what we had been charged by the CN when they operated the same track. It appears to us that the GRYR has exponentially increased the rates on the southern part of their line to force customers to find other routes for product distribution. It is my understanding that some existing customers sending products south actually found it more economically feasible to use the northern part of the line (From Grenada, MS to Memphis, TN) to send their products to markets located south of Mississippi.

It is my belief that GRYR intentionally drove customers away from the line in order to make a credible case for abandonment, without taking into consideration the devastating effect such actions would have on existing customers and the regional economy.

I urge you to consider the economic health of our communities as you analyze Grenada Railway's abandonment application.

Sincerely yours,

James H. Rone
Plant Manager - Newly Wcds Foods
Horn Lake, MS

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

RE: STB Docket AB-1087 AX

I, James H. Rone, hereby certify that on October 3, 2011, I served a copy of the Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment Opposition Letter (attached) on the following party Grenada Railway LLC by way of the U.S. Postal Service (via Delivery Confirmation # 0308-2690-0000-8090-5127):

Grenada Railway LLC
643 First Street
Grenada, MS 38901



James H. Rone
Plant Manager – Newly Weds Foods
5980 Hurt Road
Horn Lake, MS 38637